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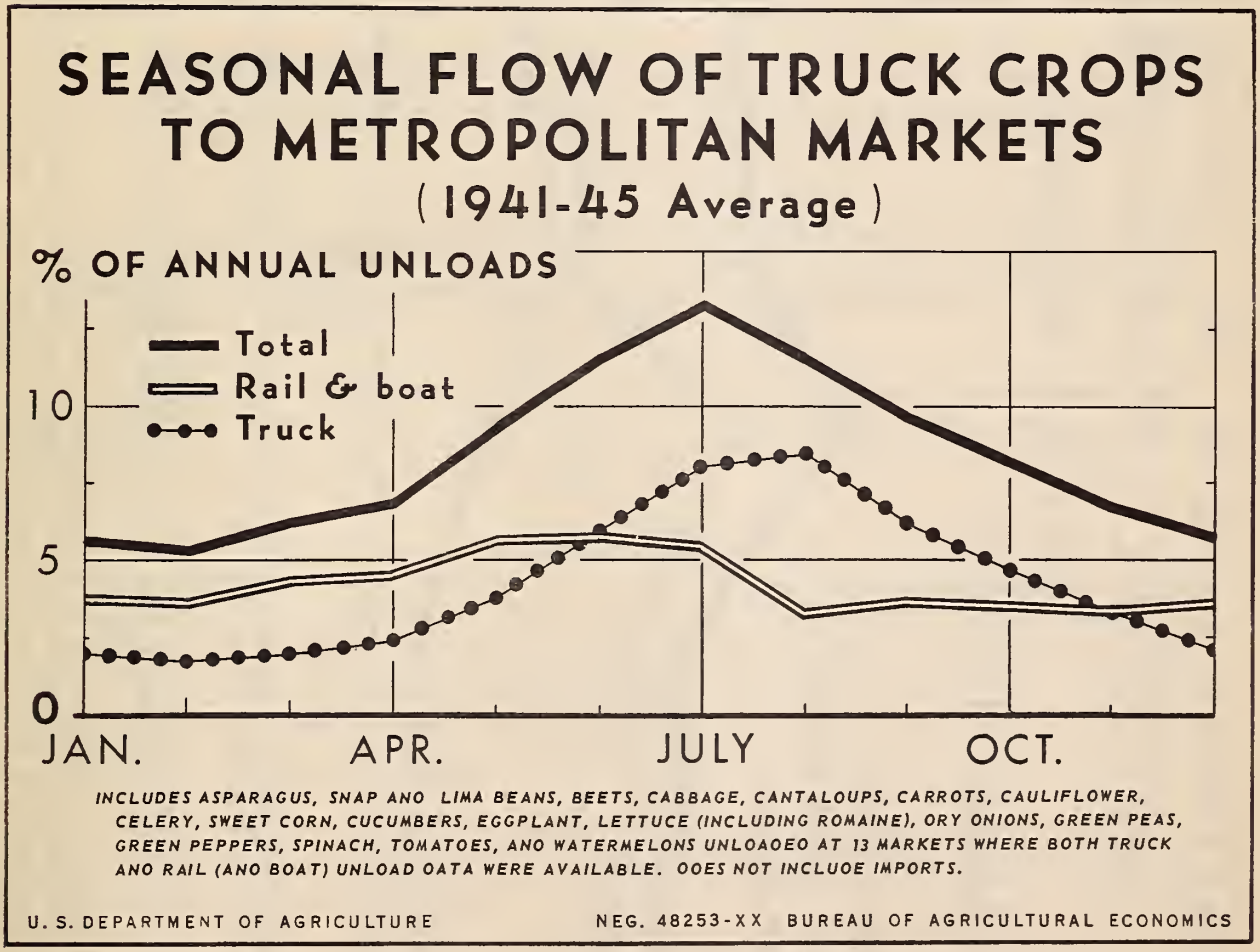
AUG. 9, A. M.

THE Vegetable SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

TVS-101 BAE JULY 1951

In this issue:
Seasonality of Fresh Vegetable Supplies

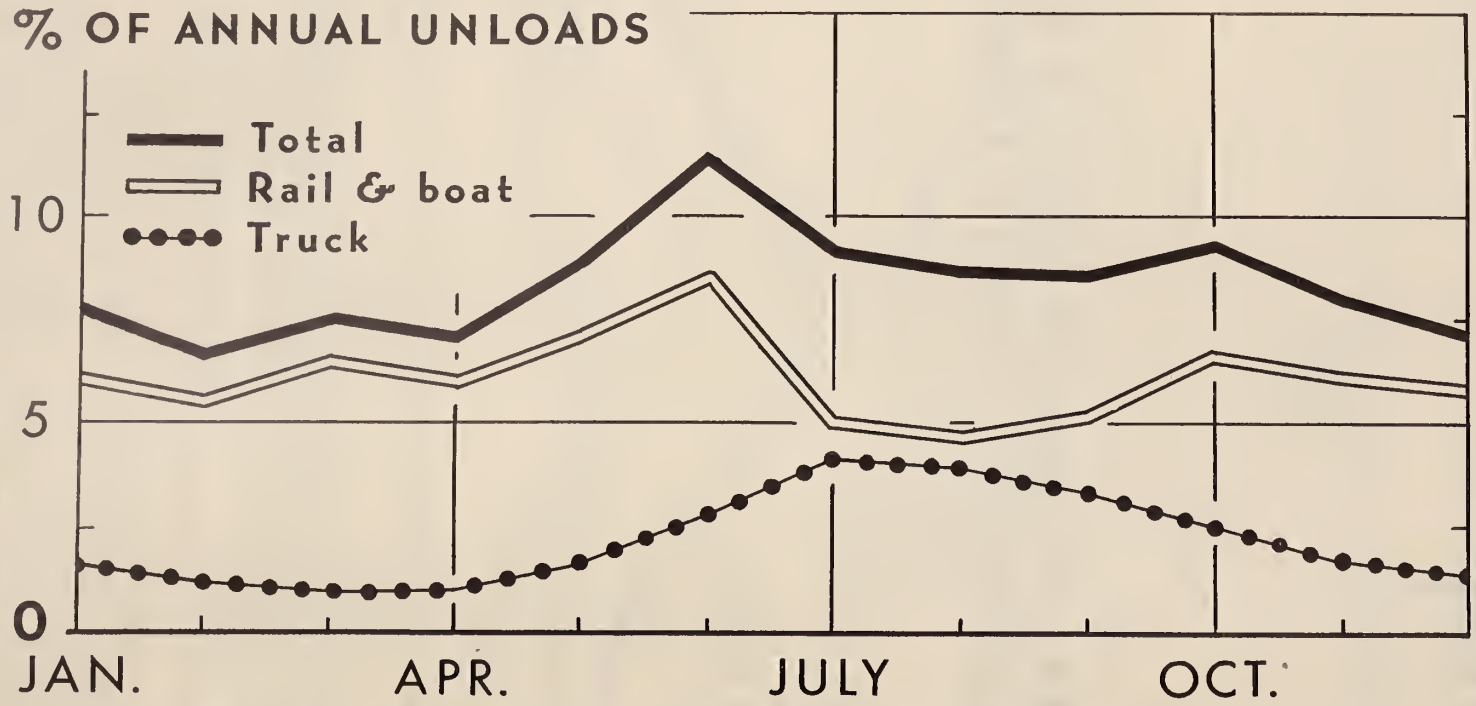


Total rail and boat unloads and reported receipts of 18 truck crops in metropolitan markets rose from a low point in February to a peak volume in July about 2 1/2 times the volume in February. Receipts by rail and boat were highest in late spring, while truck receipts were highest in mid-summer. For the year as a whole, truck unloads provided about half of the total volume.

In descending order of volume, lettuce, cabbage, celery, and carrots together provided 60 percent of total unloads in February. In July about half the total volume was provided by watermelons, tomatoes, lettuce, and sweet corn.

SEASONAL FLOW OF POTATOES TO METROPOLITAN MARKETS

(1941-45 Average)



BASED ON UNLOADS OF POTATOES AT 13 MARKETS WHERE BOTH TRUCK AND RAIL (AND BOAT) DATA WERE AVAILABLE. DOES NOT INCLUDE IMPORTS.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 48254-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

In the 1941-45 period, total unloads of United States-grown potatoes by months in metropolitan markets averaged highest in June and lowest in February. Receipts by rail (and boat) were heaviest in June and dropped rapidly to a seasonal low in August. Reported receipts by motortruck were lowest in March and April, and highest in July. The volume of unloads arriving by truck came near to equaling the rail and boat volume only in July and August. For the entire year, rail and boat movement accounted for nearly three-fourths of the total volume in these markets.

THE VEGETABLE SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, July 25, 1951

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SUMMARY

Production and prices for fresh market truck crops in general this summer are expected to be at about last summer's levels. A substantial increase in production and pack of truck crops commercially canned and frozen is in the making at prices above last year.

Among the fresh vegetables, substantially larger summer crops of tomatoes, sweet corn and snap beans this year probably will force somewhat lower prices for these 3 crops but the opposite situation is expected for lettuce, cabbage and cantaloups.

The production levels suggested by the Department for truck crops for commercial processing may be reached or exceeded, according to early indications, for lima beans, green and wax beans, cabbage, cucumbers, green peas and spinach. However, unless yields turn out unusually high, the sweet corn crop for processing may be moderately below the suggested level. In total, there probably will be enough canned and frozen vegetables to take care of the military requirements and still satisfy the stronger consumer demand.

The potato crop is expected to be much smaller than last year, though more than sufficient for all requirements, and to sell at somewhat higher prices this year.

Farmers apparently have gone a long way toward adjusting their acreage and production of potatoes downward to demand levels. This is the first year without a mandatory price support program for potatoes since 1942.

The sweetpotato crop in prospect is nearly a third smaller than the 1950 crop and will bring higher prices. Sweetpotato acreage has been reduced sharply because of more attractive alternative crops, sweetpotato weevil troubles, and general scarcity of workers for this high labor requirement crop.

The dry bean crop is slightly smaller than last year, but total supplies are adequate and only a moderate price increase is expected. The dry pea crop is expected to be much larger than last year. Stocks probably will increase and prices may be at or below those of 1950.

TRUCK CROPS FOR FRESH MARKET

Smaller Total Production Probable This Year Than Last

Largely because of weather conditions, acreages and yields of commercial truck crops produced for fresh market have been smaller thus far this year than last. In winter season production areas (first quarter of year), aggregate acreage of these crops was down 11 percent and production 16 percent from a year earlier. In spring areas, the acreage was off 7 percent and production 8 percent.

Though the aggregate acreage for summer harvest is expected to be slightly smaller than last year, aggregate production is expected to be about the same as last year. Combined winter, spring and summer production estimated to date is 7 percent smaller than for the same period last year, but 9 percent larger than the 10-year average.

Acreages of cabbage for fall harvest and of tomatoes for early fall harvest are expected to be moderately smaller than last year.

For the year 1951 as a whole, aggregate production of commercial truck crops for fresh market is expected to be slightly smaller than last year. However, production this year is likely to be slightly larger than the actual quantities marketed last year. Record large quantities of truck crops, particularly cabbage, were not harvested in 1950 because of market conditions.

Summer Supply Equal To Year Ago

Production estimates for crops accounting for about three-fourths of the total summer production have been made to date this year. Substantial increases in prospective tonnage of tomatoes, watermelons, sweet corn and snap beans combine to offset substantial reductions of lettuce, cabbage, and cantaloups. Although not so much tonnage is involved, the indicated percentage increase in summer production of spinach is substantial, while substantial percentage reductions are indicated for lima beans, cauliflower, and green peas.

With demand somewhat stronger than last summer, and aggregate production about the same as last year, prices received by farmers probably will be near the levels of last summer for fresh market truck crops as a whole. However, higher prices are expected for cabbage, lettuce, cantaloups, lima beans and cauliflower, and lower prices for tomatoes, spinach, sweet corn, and snap beans.

Prospects for Individual Crops

Indicated production of 105,100 tons of cabbage for harvest in early summer (July through mid-August) is 7 percent larger than last year and 26 percent above the 10-year average. Cabbage available for late summer (151,800 tons) harvest, while as usual a much larger quantity than that for early summer harvest, is expected to be 20 percent less than for the same period last year and 3 percent less than average.

Prices received by farmers for cabbage this summer and fall are expected to be well above the low level of a year earlier when economic abandonment of the crop was record large.

Current cabbage production estimates include cabbage which may be used for kraut manufacture. Relatively large quantities of the summer cabbage crop are so used. In 1950, kraut packers used about 15 percent of the early summer crop and 28 percent of the late summer crop.

About 6 percent less acreage of early fall domestic cabbage this year than last is indicated by preliminary reports. Substantial quantities of this crop also go into kraut as a rule. Acreage of early fall Danish cabbage is indicated to be about 8 percent less than last year and 14 percent below the 1940-49 average. Early fall cabbage provides most of the storage supplies for the following winter. Last year, economic abandonment of this crop was record-large because of very low prices at harvest time.

In late-fall cabbage areas, prospective plantings indicate an acreage 16 percent larger than a year earlier and 29 percent larger than average. Because record-large economic abandonment of 1950-crop early fall cabbage left unusually low stocks in storage for sale during the following winter (January through March, 1951), and because the crop for winter harvest was much below average, cabbage prices this past winter were sharply higher than the depressed prices last summer and fall. No doubt this experience was a considerable factor in the acreage plans of growers in the late fall areas this year.

Production of cantaloups for early and mid-summer harvest is expected to be about 3 percent smaller than in 1950 but 11 percent above the 10-year average. Higher yields per acre are partially offsetting the substantial reduction in acreage. With acreage in late summer areas also down moderately from last year, the total acreage for this year is estimated to be 4 percent less than last year, but 4 percent above average. Prices which farmers receive for cantaloups this year are expected to average somewhat higher than last year.

Prices received by farmers for lettuce should average much higher than the relatively low prices received last summer. Reported commercial production for summer harvest is estimated to be 12 percent smaller than last summer, though nearly one-fifth larger than the 10-year average. Much higher yields this year than last only partially offset the big reduction in acreage.

Prices received by farmers for dry onions this summer may be moderately higher than those received in the summer of 1950. Production for early summer harvest is estimated to be 3 percent less than in 1950. Acreage for late summer harvest, which provides most of the onions stored for fall and winter sales, exceeds last year's acreage by less than 1 percent.

Early summer production of tomatoes for the fresh market this year was one-fifth larger than last year's below average supplies. Consequently, prices farmers have received for tomatoes in early summer this year were considerably below the unusually high prices of the same period in 1950. However, production for late summer harvest is expected to be 9 percent larger than last year and 14 percent above the 10-year average. Prices for tomatoes in late summer probably will be below those of late summer 1950. Acreage of tomatoes for early fall harvest is indicated to be down 10 percent from last year, though 3 percent above the 10-year average.

The main, or early-summer, crop of watermelons this year is only slightly larger than that of last year, or the 10-year average. The crop of watermelons for late summer harvest is estimated to be 9 percent larger than the crop in 1950 but 11 percent below average. Prices received probably will fall seasonally, and be close to last year's levels.

The foregoing 6 summer crops provide about 80 percent of the commercial truck crops grown for the summer fresh market. Production estimates for these and for 13 lesser crops are given in the statistical tables attached to this report.

TRUCK CROPS FOR PROCESSING

Increased Production Aims Largely Being Achieved

Based on early acreage and production indications, it appears that the 17 percent increase in aggregate production of 9 major processing crops suggested by the Department will be substantially achieved. The suggestions of the Department took into account the information available on stocks of commercially canned and frozen vegetables, and the anticipated increases in civilian demand and military requirements. Compared with 1950, production increases suggested were almost one-third for sweet corn, about one-fifth for cucumbers for pickles, spinach, and tomatoes, and about 8 percent for green peas. About the same production as in 1950 was suggested for snap beans and lima beans. On the other hand, substantial reductions were suggested for beets, and cabbage for kraut.

Using production estimates already made and assuming yields for other crops similar to those of recent years on acreages indicated by early reports, it appears that the suggested level of production will be attained or exceeded for the following processing crops: lima beans, green and wax beans, cabbage, cucumbers, green peas, and spinach. Under

similar assumptions, 1951 production will not fall seriously short of the suggested levels for beets and tomatoes. Sweet corn production may fall moderately below the suggested level unless yields are unusually high.

Higher Contract Prices
To Growers

In general, prices which farmers have been offered under contract by commercial canners and freezers this year are substantially higher than those offered last year. Open market prices also are expected to be somewhat higher than last year.

Prospects for Principal Crops

The estimated acreage of tomatoes for processing this year is up 28 percent from the acreage planted last year, but is 8 percent less than the recent 10-year average acreage planted. It also falls about 6 percent below the acreage suggested by the Department. However, if yields for the country as a whole were to approach last year's high average yield, production this year for processing might still come up to the suggested level of about one-fifth more than in 1950. Condition of the crop on July 1 was slightly better than at the same time last year. Prices received by farmers for processing tomatoes this year are expected to average much higher than last year.

The preliminary (June) estimate of sweet corn planted for processing this year indicated an increase of about 30 percent over the small acreage planted last year, but 6 percent less than the 10-year average acreage. This indicated acreage also is about 5 percent below the suggested acreage for this year which looked toward a crop about one-third larger than the small 1950 crop assuming yields equal to the 1946-50 average. As of July 1, the condition of the processing sweet corn crop was estimated to be slightly better than at the same time in 1950. Yields last year were substantially above average, and if the 1951 yields approached last year's, the suggested production figure might still be reached.

Prices received by farmers for sweet corn for processing this year probably will average much higher than last year.

The 1951 crop of green peas for processing is indicated to be 21 percent larger than the 1950 crop and 30 percent larger than the 10-year average. It is also larger than the production suggested by the Department by a comfortable margin. The prospective average yield per acre this year is the largest on record. The planted acreage report in May indicated that the acreage of sweet wrinkled varieties was up more than 10 percent from last year and made up nearly four-fifths of the total acreage, while the acreage of smooth round varieties was up slightly from last year. The acreage grown for freezing increased relatively more than the acreage for canning and other processing, and in May was indicated to be slightly more than one-fourth the total acreage

of peas for processing. The average of prices received by farmers for green peas for processing is expected to be moderately higher than that received last year.

With acreage up almost 8 percent from last year and yield indicated to be nearly as large as last year, the processing crop of snap beans is expected to be about 7 percent larger than the 1950 crop and 35 percent larger than the 10-year average. Such a crop would be almost 9 percent larger than that suggested by the Department. Contract prices offered farmers this year for snap beans were generally moderately higher than prices paid a year earlier.

The below-average crop of cucumber for pickles in 1950 resulted in a small pack and considerable reduction in pickle stocks. Consequently packers offered growers substantially higher prices this year. The planted acreage is estimated to be 29 percent larger than in 1950. If acreage abandonment is about average this year, and if yields approximated the 1944-48 average in contrast to last year's low yield, the crop this year should be more than adequate to meet anticipated demands at the somewhat higher level of prices implied by the higher prices paid farmers.

Other Processing Crop Prospects

Reports indicate a record acreage of green lima beans for processing this year, about 1 percent more acres than the previous record in 1949 and a 14 percent increase from last year's acreage. The July 1 condition of the crop was better than average for the date but not quite as good as on July 1 last year. Unofficial reports indicate farmers were offered moderately higher contract prices for this crop than last year.

Reports from canners indicate a probable acreage of beets for canning about 2 percent smaller than in 1950, but 14 percent above average. The crop on July 1 this year was in better condition than on the same date a year ago and also above average for the date. The Department had suggested maintaining the same acreage as last year. Unofficial reports indicate that contract prices offered farmers for processing beets this year may average little, if any, more than the prices paid farmers last year.

Acreage of cabbage planted under contract for kraut is indicated to be 3 percent smaller than last year, but 3 percent above average. In addition to this acreage, kraut manufacturers use cabbage from commercial open market acreage. In years past, the open market acreage has generally been about half the total acreage. Prices paid farmers for processing cabbage this year are expected to average substantially higher than the relatively low prices received last year.

Acreage of pimientos planted or contracted in Georgia is down about 44 percent from the record large acreage planted in 1950, but 37 percent larger than the 10-year average acreage. Unfavorable weather at setting time, and diversion of acreage to cotton are major factors in the decline in acreage from last year.

Production of spinach for processing in the winter and spring harvest areas this year is estimated to be 87.9 thousand tons, compared with nearly 61 thousand tons in these areas and 79.7 thousand tons in all areas last year. Production in fall harvest areas will not be reported till November, but it would not be surprising to find an increase in production in this area also. Last year's acreage and production in the fall harvest areas were below average. Farmers are being paid somewhat higher prices for spinach for processing this year than last.

CANNED VEGETABLES

1951 Pack May be About One-sixth Larger Than 1950 Pack

On the basis of acreage and production indicated thus far this season, and after making assumptions for crops not reported, it seems probable that the 1951 pack of commercially canned vegetables will be about one-sixth larger than the 1950 pack, but substantially smaller than the record pack of 1946.

Of course, much yet depends upon yields. If early prospects are realized however, the 1951 pack will be substantially larger than the 1950 pack for all of the 11 major truck crops canned except perhpas for beets and sauerkraut.

Carry-over Stocks Low 1/

At the end of the 1950 pack marketing year, it is expected that total carry-over stocks of canned vegetables will be more than one-fourth smaller than those of a year earlier. Canners' stocks in particular are expected to be low, while wholesale distributor stocks may total about the same as a year earlier. Total carry-over stocks of canned vegetables are expected to be substantially larger than a year earlier for the following important items only: snap beans, green peas, asparagus, and beets.

Consumption to Continue At High Rate

Part of the high rate of disappearance of canned vegetables from wholesale channels in the 1950 pack year was due to scare buying. However, the increased employment and income levels of 1951 are expected to sustain total consumption of canned vegetables by civilians at about the high 1950 rate. And of course the military services will require a sizeable part of the 1951 pack.

Prices of 1951 pack canned vegetables in general are expected to be moderately higher than those for the 1950 pack.

1/ July stock reports received too late for comment but data are given in Table 7 attached to this report.

FROZEN VEGETABLES

Record Stocks July 1 Not Considered Excessive

Although stocks of commercially frozen vegetables in cold storage moved out more rapidly than usual this past spring, total stocks on July 1 were a record. These stocks reflected both a growing industry, and the effect of this year's large packs that had begun to come in by July 1. Stocks were larger than those of July 1, 1950 for all items separately reported except cauliflower and sweet corn.

Pack and Consumption Expected to Continue High in 1951

With employment and incomes continuing at very high levels, and with the military services using more frozen vegetables per man than formerly, consumption of commercially frozen vegetables is expected to continue at record rates in 1951. It also seems likely that concerns freezing vegetables will maintain in 1951 about the same scale of operations as in their record pack year of 1950.

POTATOES

Possibility of More Manageable Crop in 1951

As of July 1, the prospective potato crop this year was about 356 million bushels on the basis of the acreage planted and assuming average growing conditions from now till harvest in the areas not already harvested. This is the first year since 1942 that there has not been mandatory price support on potatoes. The acreage planted this year is about 18 percent smaller than the 1950 acreage, a little less acreage than was indicated by farmers' planting intentions in March, and the smallest since 1871. With average growing conditions, the national average yield per acre is expected to be about as high as last year's record of nearly 238 bushels per acre.

While a crop of 356 million bushels is somewhat larger than the estimated national requirements, it nevertheless would be the smallest crop since 1941 and would reduce the surplus far below that of several recent years when it was 100 million bushels or more.

Crop Down in Each Major Area

The 1951 crop of 50 million bushels in the early potato States was nearly one-fourth smaller than the 1950 crop and 15 percent below average. The crop this year was 8 to 9 million bushels smaller than the production in 1949 and 1950 after deduction of Government surplus purchases. Substantially all of the reduction in crop for the early States occurred in California. Acreage was reduced in all early States except Alabama, and reduced most in California. Average yield per acre in the early States as a group also was down a little from last year.

This years' potato crop in the 8 intermediate States, estimated at somewhat more than 26 million bushels is a reduction of almost one-fifth from last year's average size crop.

The 1951 crop in this group of States is about 2.5 to 5 million bushels larger than production in 1949 and 1950 after deduction of Government surplus purchases. In all of the 8 States except New Jersey, this year's crop is closely in line with these figures. In New Jersey, however, the 1951 crop is almost double the 2-year 1949-50 average production less support purchases. Potato marketing difficulties in the intermediate States, therefore, are most apt to occur when New Jersey is shipping most heavily.

The 279 million bushel crop indicated for the 29 late States is 19 percent smaller than the 1950 crop and 12 percent smaller than the 10-year average. While the yield per acre in these States is expected to average virtually the same as last year, the acreage was substantially reduced.

In the late States areas, the 1951 crop indicated July 1 exceeds by 25 million bushels (or 10 percent) the production of the last 2 years after deducting support purchases. The crop is reasonably in line with these 2 year production-less purchase levels in the "11 Other Late States," and in the 10 Western Surplus Late States. The big factors in excess production this year are Maine, Long Island and North Dakota. It would be somewhat unfair, however, to assume that surplus production in past years has been in direct proportion to support purchases by States. Reasons for this fact include: Purchase operations tend to concentrate where carlot quantities can be readily obtained, purchases in one area may be necessitated by prior overloading of the market from other producing areas; support purchases in one area tend to open up a market outlet for potatoes from other areas; and price support schedules may operate inadvertently to disturb the seasonal and varietal differentials which the markets may have developed.

Prices May Average Higher This Year

The United States average mid-month price per bushel received by farmers for potatoes rose from a seasonal low of 85.8 cents per bushel last October to a high of $1.12 in April, and then tapered off to $1.08 this June. As of July 15 this year, the average price of $1.18 per bushel was only 9 cents per bushel below that of a year earlier, and was 66 percent of the July parity for potatoes. Of course, United States average prices this winter and spring have been heavily weighted by 1950 crop potatoes, of which a heavy surplus was hanging over the market.

Mid-month potato prices received by farmers in Early States this year have averaged higher than a year earlier since January, and this July, at $1.51 per bushel, were 40 cents per bushel higher than a year earlier.

Even though there is no mandatory price support for potatoes this year, prices farmers receive for 1951-crop potatoes may average somewhat higher than those received for the 1950 crop. If present production prospects materialize, there will be only a small surplus, if any. Also, demand for food in general is stronger this year and other foods for the most part are higher priced this year than last.

Marketing agreement programs are in effect in several major production areas this year. These will assist in keeping low quality and small size potatoes off the market.

SWEETPOTATOES

Smallest Crop In Two-thirds of a Century

Drastically reduced acreage this year is primarily responsible for the prospect of the smallest sweetpotato crop in about two-thirds of a century. The prospective crop of not quite 40 million bushels is nearly one-third smaller than the small 1950 crop and 35 percent below the recent 10-year average.

In considerable part, the acreage reduction this year stemmed from relatively low prices of recent years for sweetpotatoes compared with some alternative crops, the removal of acreage restrictions on cotton, increased tobacco acreage allotments, trouble with sweetpotato weevil in east Texas, and the anticipated tighter labor supply for the high-labor requirement sweetpotato crop. In addition to these factors, dry weather this spring in many parts of the South interfered with transplanting.

Yield per acre prospects are well above average but a little below last year's record high.

Higher Prices for 1951 Crop

Because of the small crop in prospect and the continued high demand for food expected, prices received by farmers for the 1951 sweetpotato crop will average considerably higher than those received for the 1950 crop. The season average price received for the 1950 crop was $1.72 per bushel (preliminary).

Of course, very few sweetpotatoes have been moving to market in recent weeks because this time of the year is the between-season lull before the new crop becomes available in volume. However, Porto Rican type 1951 crop sweetpotatoes from North Carolina were selling at wholesale in New York City in late July at about $6.00 per bushel, virtually double the comparable quotations for a year earlier.

DRY EDIBLE BEANS

Prospective Crop Slightly Smaller Than 1950 Crop

The 1951 crop of dry edible beans is forecast as of July 1 at 16.2 million bags (100 pounds each, uncleaned basis). This is 4 percent less than the 1950 crop and 10 percent less than the 1940-49 average, but allowing for normal clean out, the indicated crop on a cleaned basis would be about the same as last year, when clean out was abnormally heavy. Prospective national acreage for harvest is nearly as large as last year's harvested acreage.

Prospective Crop by States Gives Clue to Production by Types

In California, the 1951 crop of dry Baby Lima beans is expected to be about one-fourth smaller than the 1950 crop because of reductions in both acreage and yield. The prospective crop of dry Standard Limas is 17 percent below the 1950 crop primarily because of lower yield but also because of a slightly smaller acreage. Prospective production of other dry beans in California is up 28 percent, and total production of all dry beans in the State is down only very slightly from last year's crop.

In Michigan where pea beans are particularly important, a large cut in acreage planted followed the very unfavorable 1950 season. However, the prospective crop in this State is down only 5 percent from last year, because acreage abandonment is expected to be much less than the heavy abandonment last year.

Production in Idaho, where Great Northerns are the major variety, is down about 10 percent, with a 6 percent increase in acreage partly offsetting a lower yield.

Dry weather and lack of moisture caused a further reduction in bean acreage planted in the Southwest, where Pintos are the leading variety. Because of higher prospective yields in this area, however, the crop is expected to be virtually as large as last year but one-fourth below the recent 10-year average.

Red Kidney beans and Pea beans are leading varieties in New York State, where prospects are for a crop a trifle larger than last year's about average size crop.

Strong Demand, Declining Stocks, Higher Prices

Because of high level employment, strong civilian and military demand, and generally higher prices for food than last year, the civilian per capita consumption of dry beans in the 1951 crop-marketing season is expected to continue at as high a rate as in any recent year. This

would be somewhere near 9 pounds per capita. Military needs, of course, will be larger than in several years past. Government surplus stocks are being reduced at a satisfactory rate.

Prices received by farmers for dry beans and prices at retail are expected to average moderately higher during the 1951 crop-marketing season than prices a year earlier. Prices for Pea and large Lima beans are expected to be appreciably higher than 1950 crop averages, while Blackeyes may be well below last year. Baby Limas may be moderately lower. Other classes may be moderately higher.

DRY FIELD PEAS

1951 Crop About One-fifth Larger Than 1950 Crop

With average yield expected to be down about 7 percent, but acreage for harvest up 28 percent from last year, the 1951 crop of dry field peas is expected to be about 19 percent larger than the small 1950 crop. However, it would be 40 percent less than the 1940-49 average of 5.9 million bags, which includes the World War II and post-war years of unusually high requirements. The prospective crop of 3.6 million bags (uncleaned basis) is larger than any crop prior to 1941, but is only about one-third of the record crop of 10.9 million bags in 1943.

Production in Excess of Demand

Ordinarily, civilian consumption of dry peas approximates 0.6 pounds per capita annually. After making generous allowances for some increase in civilian per capita consumption and in military requirements in the 1951 crop year, it nevertheless seems likely that total demand for dry peas will be smaller than in the 1950 crop year. In the 1950 crop year, some increase was required to help plant increased acreage of green peas for processing and to supply the unusual demand of drouth-affected countries abroad.

In spite of generally strong demand for food and a high level of prices in general, prices for 1951-crop dry peas at retail and as received by farmers probably will average little if any higher than those received for the 1950 crop. Stocks of dry peas probably will be somewhat higher at the end of the 1951-crop marketing year than they are now.

SEASONALITY OF FRESH VEGETABLE SUPPLIES

As an aid in appraising month-to-month changes in reported commercial production, data are presented on the usual seasonal pattern of total supplies. Unfortunately, it has been virtually impossible to get a reliable national picture of the month-by-month movement of fresh vegetables. Movement of produce by rail and boat is fairly well reported, but motor truck data is only fragmentary. This has been true because of the many points of origin of shipments, the several methods of

transportation used, and the many destinations involved, as well as the limitations of money and personnel to obtain such information.

Nevertheless, the total picture may be reasonably represented by total receipts in our major metropolitan markets. Such markets include a high proportion of our total population, as well as a wide variety of tastes and incomes. Probably the smaller communities would have a somewhat higher proportion of truck receipts and perhaps a somewhat more restricted list of unusual and locally out-of-season items.

To determine the pattern of fresh vegetable receipts in major markets, the rail and boat unloads and reported truck receipts were summarized for the major metropolitan markets for which unloads from all 3 sources were available, for the 5 years 1941-45. There were 13 such markets 1/ during that time for which unloads were reported with an approximation of completeness. All unload data were converted to comparable prewar carlot equivalents.

The accompanying tables present a summary of the unload data for these markets, averaged for the 5 years, by months, by type of transportation, and by commodity. The cover chart shows the aggregate seasonal pattern for 18 of the truck crops, while the inside cover chart and the other smaller charts included in this Situation report show the pattern for potatoes, sweetpotatoes, and the 18 truck crops individually.

The fairly symmetrical seasonal increase and decrease in total volume of unloads of truck crops from the low month of February to the high month of July seems remarkable in the light of the wide variety of seasonal patterns for the individual commodities included. Crops with very sharp seasonal peaks in monthly unloads include asparagus (April and May), cucumbers (June and July), watermelons (June, July and August), and cantaloups, sweet corn and eggplant (August). Crops with pronounced but less violent seasonal patterns are green beans, beets, cauliflower, green peas, green peppers, sweetpotatoes, and tomatoes. Relatively level or steady patterns of unloads are shown for cabbage, carrots, celery, lettuce, and potatoes.

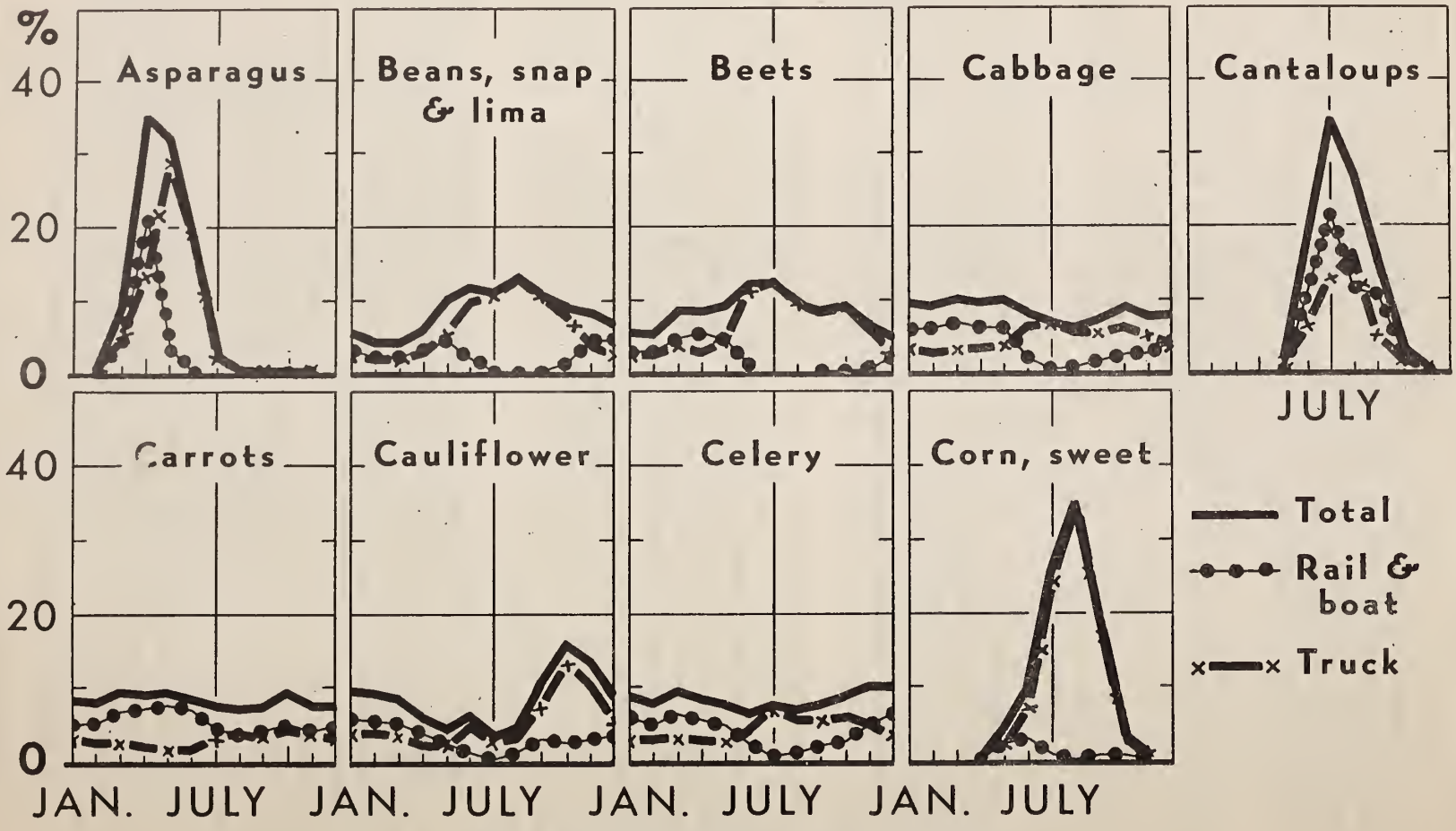
It can be readily seen that truck movement assumes a different degree of importance relative to total movement at different times of the year, and as between commodities. Speaking in generalizations, rail (and boat) unloads usually represent long distance shipments of produce locally out of season for the markets concerned. Conversely, truck unloads largely represent supplies from nearer areas, usually with a somewhat later season. Rail and boat unloads have a broad peak in May, June and July, but then drop off sharply to a seasonal low in August. Truck unloads reach their peak a month or two later and have their low point in February.

Because so much less current data is available on truck movements than on rail shipments, it is clear that it is generally the summer months in which uncertainty as to market supplies and prices is greatest. This fact also indicates the area of greatest need for expansion in available market data. The trend is toward greater movement by truck.

1/ These markets are: Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Kansas City. (Missouri), Los Angeles, New Orleans, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, San Francisco, Oakland, and Washington, D. C.

MOVEMENT OF TRUCK CROPS BY RAIL, BOAT, AND TRUCK

Monthly Percentage of Annual Unloads at 13 Terminal Markets



1941-45 AVERAGE; DOES NOT INCLUDE IMPORTS

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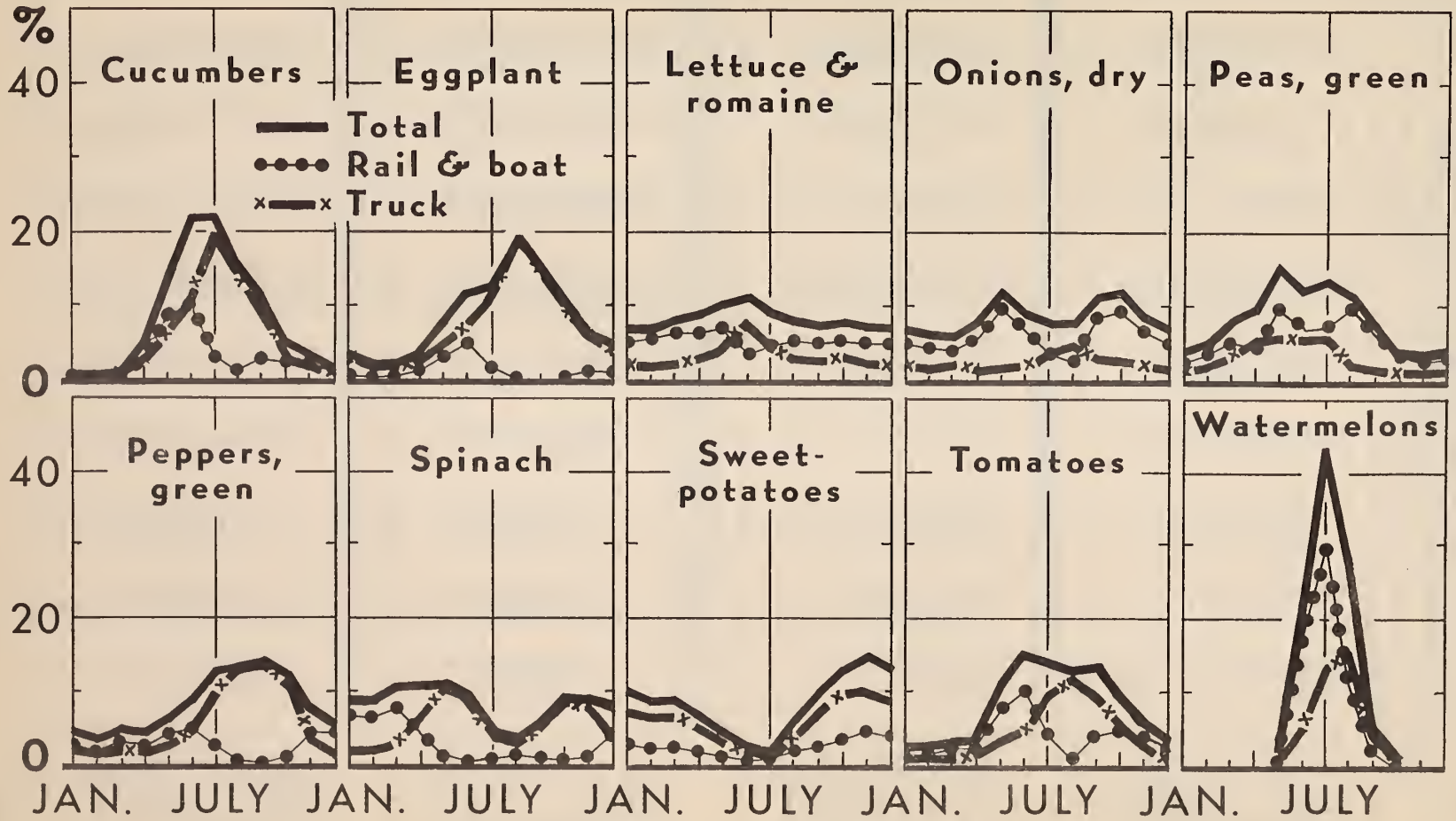
MOVEMENT OF TRUCK CROPS BY RAIL, BOAT, AND TRUCK

Monthly Percentage of Annual Unloads at 13 Terminal Markets



1941-45 AVERAGE; DOES NOT INCLUDE IMPORTS

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 48255-2-X BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Table 1.- Truck, rail and boat unloads of 20 major vegetables and truck crops at 13 metropolitan markets, 1941-45 average, by months 1/

Unloads converted to equivalent prewar carloads

Month	1941-45 average unloads											
	Asparagus			Beans, green			Beets			Cabbage		
	Rail and boat	Truck	Total	Rail and boat	Truck	Total	Rail and boat	Truck	Total	Rail and boat	Truck	Total
January	---	---	---	457	321	778	115	101	216	1,350	819	2,169
February	6	24	30	333	250	583	115	94	209	1,384	647	2,031
March	174	206	380	323	261	584	192	144	336	1,568	701	2,269
April	840	541	1,381	442	407	849	220	111	331	1,436	726	2,162
May	132	1,142	1,274	644	791	1,435	184	170	354	1,407	854	2,261
June	10	740	750	292	1,382	1,674	44	435	479	441	1,447	1,888
July	---	88	88	38	1,522	1,560	3	488	491	57	1,497	1,554
August	---	17	17	35	1,823	1,858	5	368	373	158	1,244	1,402
September	---	10	10	23	1,525	1,548	9	326	335	374	1,244	1,618
October	3	8	11	203	1,076	1,279	8	354	362	593	1,432	2,025
November	4	4	8	640	530	1,170	23	242	265	610	1,123	1,733
December	---	---	---	644	314	958	90	106	196	972	815	1,787
Total	1,169	2,780	3,949	4,074	10,202	14,276	1,008	2,939	3,947	10,350	12,549	22,899
	Equivalent carloads in percentage of annual total unloads											
January	---	---	---	3.2	2.3	5.5	2.9	2.6	5.5	5.9	3.6	9.5
February	0.2	0.6	0.8	2.3	1.8	4.1	2.9	2.4	5.3	6.1	2.8	8.9
March	4.4	5.2	9.6	2.3	1.8	4.1	4.9	3.6	8.5	6.8	3.1	9.9
April	21.3	13.7	35.0	3.1	2.8	5.9	5.6	2.8	8.4	6.2	3.2	9.4
May	3.3	29.0	32.3	4.5	5.6	10.1	4.7	4.3	9.0	6.2	3.7	9.9
June	.3	18.7	19.0	2.0	9.7	11.7	1.1	11.0	12.1	1.9	6.3	8.2
July	---	2.2	2.2	.3	10.6	10.9	---	12.4	12.4	.3	6.5	6.8
August	---	.4	.4	.2	12.8	13.0	---	9.4	9.4	.7	5.4	6.1
September	---	.2	.2	.2	10.6	10.8	.2	8.3	8.5	1.6	5.5	7.1
October	.1	.2	.3	1.4	7.6	9.0	.2	9.0	9.2	2.6	6.2	8.8
November	.1	.1	.2	4.5	3.7	8.2	.6	6.1	6.7	2.7	4.9	7.6
December	---	---	---	4.5	2.2	6.7	2.3	2.7	5.0	4.2	3.6	7.8
Total	29.7	70.3	100.0	28.5	71.5	100.0	25.4	74.6	100.0	45.2	54.8	100.0
	Unloads converted to equivalent prewar carloads											
	Cantaloups			Carrots			Cauliflower			Celery		
January	---	---	---	1,010	595	1,605	615	392	1,007	1,253	610	1,863
February	---	---	---	1,022	514	1,536	582	384	966	1,060	587	1,647
March	---	---	---	1,312	515	1,827	547	339	886	1,353	637	1,990
April	---	2	2	1,368	355	1,723	395	216	611	1,187	559	1,746
May	121	94	215	1,484	310	1,794	260	170	430	1,045	547	1,592
June	1,393	773	2,166	1,349	288	1,637	130	505	635	530	815	1,345
July	2,736	1,605	4,341	872	573	1,445	31	279	310	143	1,470	1,613
August	1,408	2,011	3,419	648	674	1,322	153	321	474	241	1,207	1,448
September	1,331	613	1,944	760	624	1,384	326	754	1,080	442	1,144	1,586
October	290	142	432	979	802	1,781	252	1,379	1,631	588	1,237	1,825
November	9	10	19	773	699	1,472	307	1,106	1,413	1,065	1,030	2,095
December	---	---	---	923	551	1,474	367	545	912	1,421	675	2,096
Total	7,288	5,250	12,538	12,500	6,500	19,000	3,965	6,390	10,355	10,328	10,518	20,846
	Equivalent carloads in percentage of annual total unloads											
January	---	---	---	5.3	3.1	8.4	5.9	3.8	9.7	6.0	2.9	8.9
February	---	---	---	5.4	2.7	8.1	5.6	3.7	9.3	5.1	2.8	7.9
March	---	---	---	6.9	2.7	9.6	5.3	3.3	8.6	6.5	3.0	9.5
April	---	---	---	7.2	1.9	9.1	3.8	2.1	5.9	5.7	2.7	8.4
May	1.0	0.7	1.7	7.8	1.6	9.4	2.5	1.7	4.2	5.0	2.6	7.6
June	11.1	6.2	17.3	7.1	1.5	8.6	1.3	4.8	6.1	2.6	3.9	6.5
July	21.8	12.8	34.6	4.6	3.0	7.6	.3	2.7	3.0	.7	7.0	7.7
August	11.2	16.1	27.3	3.4	3.6	7.0	.5	3.1	4.6	1.2	5.7	6.9
September	10.6	4.9	15.5	4.0	3.3	7.3	3.1	7.3	10.4	2.1	5.5	7.6
October	2.3	1.1	3.4	5.2	4.2	9.4	2.5	13.3	15.8	2.8	6.0	8.8
November	.1	.1	.2	4.1	3.6	7.7	3.0	10.6	13.6	5.1	5.0	10.1
December	---	---	---	4.9	2.9	7.8	3.5	5.3	8.8	6.8	3.3	10.1
Total	58.1	41.9	100.0	65.9	34.1	100.0	38.3	61.7	100.0	49.6	50.4	100.0

- Continued

Table 1.- Truck, rail and boat unloads of 20 major vegetables and truck crops at 13 metropolitan markets, 1941-45 average, by months 1/ - Continued

Month	Corn, green			Cucumbers			Eggplant			Lettuce and romaine		
	Rail and boat	Truck	Total	Rail and boat	Truck	Total	Rail and boat	Truck	Total	Rail and boat	Truck	Total
	Unloads converted to equivalent prewar carloads: 1941-45 average unloads											
January	---	---	---	5	21	26	9	43	52	1,959	667	2,626
February	1	---	1	1	19	20	3	26	29	2,007	603	2,610
March	---	---	---	7	40	47	5	27	32	2,327	686	3,013
April	24	5	29	143	146	289	21	40	61	2,269	943	3,212
May	207	184	391	500	348	843	48	75	123	2,446	1,447	3,893
June	250	600	850	638	650	1,288	78	108	186	1,262	2,750	4,012
July	73	2,083	2,156	162	1,141	1,303	22	171	193	1,748	1,777	3,525
August	12	2,936	2,948	68	860	928	1	288	289	1,976	1,038	3,014
September	69	1,656	1,725	145	511	656	---	244	244	1,814	960	2,774
October	66	237	303	134	166	300	4	151	155	1,880	999	2,879
November	17	40	57	112	98	210	17	86	103	1,806	861	2,667
December	1	2	3	39	33	72	11	61	72	1,854	757	2,611
Total	720	7,743	8,463	1,954	4,033	5,987	219	1,320	1,539	23,348	13,488	36,836
	Equivalent carloads in percentage of annual total unloads											
January	---	---	---	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.6	2.8	3.4	5.3	1.8	7.1
February	---	---	---	2/	.3	.3	.2	1.7	1.9	5.5	1.6	7.1
March	---	---	---	.1	.7	.8	.3	1.8	2.1	6.3	1.9	8.2
April	0.3	---	0.3	2.4	2.4	4.8	1.3	2.6	3.9	6.2	2.5	8.7
May	2.4	2.2	4.6	8.4	5.8	14.2	3.1	4.9	8.0	6.7	3.9	10.6
June	3.0	7.1	10.1	10.6	10.9	21.5	5.1	7.0	12.1	3.4	7.5	10.9
July	.9	24.6	25.5	2.7	19.1	21.8	1.4	11.1	12.5	4.8	4.8	9.6
August	.1	34.7	34.8	1.1	14.4	15.5	.1	18.7	18.8	5.4	2.8	8.2
September	.8	19.6	20.4	2.4	8.6	11.0	---	15.8	15.8	4.9	2.6	7.5
October	.8	2.8	3.6	2.2	2.8	5.0	.3	9.8	10.1	5.1	2.7	7.8
November	.2	.5	.7	1.9	1.6	3.5	1.1	5.6	6.7	4.9	2.3	7.2
December	---	---	2/	.7	.5	1.2	.7	4.0	4.7	5.0	2.1	7.1
Total	8.5	91.5	100.0	32.6	67.4	100.0	14.2	85.8	100.0	63.5	36.5	100.0

Month	Onions			Peas, green			Peppers, green			Spinach		
	Unloads converted to equivalent prewar carloads											
January	1,079	438	1,517	122	86	208	160	101	261	658	197	855
February	965	342	1,307	180	98	278	116	92	208	639	197	836
March	869	379	1,248	268	160	428	198	110	308	775	281	1,056
April	1,274	321	1,595	227	273	500	169	101	270	433	633	1,066
May	2,087	381	2,468	494	293	787	250	141	391	77	1,014	1,091
June	1,439	430	1,869	359	276	635	305	249	554	9	929	938
July	775	836	1,611	388	285	673	158	606	764	59	391	450
August	620	1,018	1,638	494	109	603	20	773	793	87	281	368
September	1,813	644	2,457	320	68	388	5	837	842	61	497	558
October	1,946	610	2,556	154	49	203	64	677	741	50	848	898
November	1,401	420	1,821	130	53	183	269	212	481	89	768	857
December	1,127	339	1,466	147	58	205	262	86	348	424	371	795
Total	15,395	6,158	21,553	3,283	1,808	5,091	1,976	3,985	5,961	3,361	6,407	9,768
	Equivalent carloads in percentage of annual total unloads											
January	5.0	2.0	7.0	2.4	1.7	4.1	2.7	1.7	4.4	6.7	2.0	8.7
February	4.5	1.6	6.1	3.6	1.9	5.5	2.0	1.5	3.5	6.6	2.0	8.6
March	4.0	1.8	5.8	5.3	3.1	8.4	3.3	1.9	5.2	7.9	2.9	10.8
April	5.9	1.5	7.4	4.4	5.4	9.8	2.8	1.7	4.5	4.4	6.5	10.9
May	9.7	1.7	11.4	9.7	5.8	15.5	4.2	2.4	6.6	.8	10.4	11.2
June	6.7	2.0	8.7	7.1	5.4	12.5	5.1	4.2	9.3	.1	9.5	9.6
July	3.6	3.9	7.5	7.6	5.6	13.2	2.6	10.2	12.8	.6	4.0	4.6
August	2.9	4.7	7.6	9.7	2.1	11.8	.3	13.0	13.3	.9	2.9	3.8
September	8.4	3.0	11.4	6.3	1.3	7.6	.1	14.0	14.1	.6	5.1	5.7
October	9.0	2.9	11.9	3.0	1.0	4.0	1.1	11.3	12.4	.5	8.7	9.2
November	6.5	1.9	8.4	2.6	1.0	3.6	4.5	3.6	8.1	.9	7.9	8.8
December	5.2	1.6	6.8	2.9	1.1	4.0	4.4	1.4	5.8	4.3	3.8	8.1
Total	71.4	28.6	100.0	64.6	35.4	100.0	33.1	66.9	100.0	34.3	65.7	100.0

- Continued

Table 1.- Truck, rail and boat unloads of 20 major vegetables and truck crops at 13 metropolitan markets, 1941-45 average, by months 1/ (Continued)

Unloads converted to equivalent prewar carloads

Month	1941-45 average unloads														
	Tomatoes			Watermelons			Total foregoing 18 truck crops			Potatoes			Sweetpotatoes		
	Rail and boat	Truck	Total	Rail and boat	Truck	Total	Rail and boat	Truck	Total	Rail and boat	Truck	Total	Rail and boat	Truck	Total
January	388	308	696	---	---	---	9,180	4,699	13,879	5,762	1,467	7,229	304	749	1,053
February	460	295	755	---	---	---	8,874	4,172	13,046	5,204	1,084	6,288	253	658	911
March	707	229	936	---	---	---	10,625	4,715	15,340	6,148	986	7,134	263	657	920
April	669	359	1,028	---	---	---	11,117	5,738	16,855	5,656	977	6,633	210	510	720
May	2,343	1,059	3,402	137	66	203	13,866	9,086	22,952	6,706	1,657	8,363	132	303	435
June	3,085	1,442	4,527	2,509	778	3,287	14,123	14,597	28,720	8,070	2,601	10,671	59	145	204
July	1,386	2,874	4,260	4,450	2,003	6,453	13,101	19,689	32,790	4,708	3,978	8,686	92	81	173
August	271	3,471	3,742	1,766	2,251	4,017	7,963	20,690	28,653	4,403	3,822	8,225	207	376	583
September	1,273	2,762	4,035	262	624	886	9,027	15,043	24,070	4,881	3,258	8,139	263	786	1,049
October	1,423	1,468	2,891	8	110	118	8,645	11,745	20,390	6,368	2,440	8,808	360	1,005	1,365
November	1,220	733	1,953	---	7	7	8,492	8,022	16,514	5,840	1,751	7,591	479	1,032	1,511
December	769	420	1,189	---	---	---	9,051	5,133	14,184	5,446	1,312	6,758	417	889	1,306
Total	13,994	15,420	29,414	9,132	5,839	14,971	124,064	123,329	247,393	69,192	25,333	94,525	3,039	7,191	10,230
	Equivalent carloads in percentage of annual total unloads														
January	1.3	1.1	2.4	---	---	---	3.7	1.9	5.6	6.1	1.6	7.7	3.0	7.3	10.3
February	1.6	1.0	2.6	---	---	---	3.6	1.7	5.3	5.5	1.2	6.7	2.5	6.4	8.9
March	2.4	.8	3.2	---	---	---	4.3	1.9	6.2	6.5	1.0	7.5	2.6	6.4	9.0
April	2.3	1.2	3.5	---	---	---	4.5	2.3	6.8	6.0	1.0	7.0	2.0	5.0	7.0
May	8.0	3.6	11.6	0.9	0.5	1.4	5.6	3.7	9.3	7.1	1.7	8.8	1.3	3.0	4.3
June	10.5	4.9	15.4	16.8	5.2	22.0	5.7	5.9	11.6	8.5	2.8	11.3	.6	1.4	2.0
July	4.7	9.8	14.5	29.7	13.4	43.1	5.3	8.0	13.3	5.0	4.2	9.2	.9	.8	1.7
August	.9	11.8	12.7	11.8	15.0	26.8	3.2	8.4	11.6	4.7	4.0	8.7	2.0	3.7	5.7
September	4.3	9.4	13.7	1.7	4.2	5.9	3.6	6.1	9.7	5.2	3.4	8.6	2.6	7.7	10.3
October	4.8	5.0	9.8	.1	.7	.8	3.5	4.7	8.2	6.7	2.6	9.3	3.5	9.8	13.3
November	4.1	2.5	6.6	---	---	---	3.4	3.3	6.7	6.2	1.8	8.0	4.6	10.1	14.7
December	2.6	1.4	4.0	---	---	---	3.6	2.1	5.7	5.8	1.4	7.2	4.1	8.7	12.8
Total	47.5	52.5	100.0	61.0	39.0	100.0	50.0	50.0	100.0	73.3	26.7	100.0	29.7	70.3	100.0

1/ Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Kansas City,(Missouri), Los Angeles, New Orleans, New York, Oakland, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, San Francisco, Washington, D. C. Rail and boat unloads substantially complete; completeness of truck unload data varies considerably, but estimated to be 80 percent or more complete for most of these markets.

2/ Less than 0.1 percent.

Table 2.- Truck crops for fresh market: Reported commercial acreage and production, average 1940-49, annual 1950, and indicated 1951

Seasonal group and crop	Acreage: Average 1940-49 2/	Acreage: 1950	Acreage: Indicated 1951: Amount	Acreage: Indicated 1951: Percentage of 1950	Production (equivalent tons 1/): Average 1940-49 2/	Production: 1950	Production: Indicated 1951: Amount	Production: Indicated 1951: Percentage of 1950
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Percent	Tons	Tons	Tons	Percent
WINTER 3/	277,280	307,250	274,800	89	1,295,100	1,639,200	1,382,300	84
SPRING 4/	615,670	645,330	598,810	93	1,803,900	2,286,800	2,108,700	92
SUMMER 5/								
Lima beans	8,600	7,200	6,100	85	12,400	13,100	10,800	82
Snap beans	46,970	42,500	41,600	98	82,100	75,600	83,400	110
Beets	2,660	2,200	2,200	100	20,700	17,900	18,300	102
Cabbage 3/	32,320	31,640	29,750	94	239,900	287,800	256,900	89
Cantaloups	88,170	89,410	81,000	91	6/251,700	6/288,800	6/279,100	97
Carrots	6,420	5,700	5,600	98	56,800	54,400	51,700	95
Cauliflower	7,300	6,500	5,500	85	40,200	40,200	34,000	85
Celery	5,310	4,780	4,800	100	78,600	98,500	98,400	100
Sweet corn	60,990	65,600	71,000	108	106,600	122,700	140,300	114
Cucumbers	16,090	15,280	14,950	98	51,400	53,200	52,400	98
Eggplant	2,040	1,800	1,800	100	7,500	7,700	7,900	103
Honey Balls	190	---	---	---	800	---	---	---
Honey Dews	10,600	8,800	9,600	109	46,500	47,700	49,900	105
Lettuce	30,300	40,300	31,800	79	226,800	305,600	269,300	88
Onions	69,530	70,810	70,850	100	7/50,500	7/42,800	7/41,500	97
Green peas	17,360	5,600	4,200	75	25,900	7,900	6,300	80
Green peppers	15,740	18,300	18,800	103	40,600	50,300	50,900	101
Spinach	5,510	4,700	5,000	106	16,900	13,700	17,200	126
Tomatoes	89,920	80,550	85,600	106	376,400	360,000	405,100	113
Watermelons	209,530	214,470	203,670	95	723,700	697,400	716,700	103
Total summer to date: Acreage and production	647,900	639,280	617,680	97	2,456,100	2,585,300	2,590,100	100
Total summer	725,550	716,140	693,820	97	3,227,800	3,486,100	---	---
FALL								
Early:								
Cabbage 3/								
Domestic	30,010	32,420	30,600	94	---	---	---	---
Danish	31,590	29,550	Prospective 27,300	92	---	---	---	---
Tomatoes	17,440	20,000	Indicated 18,000	90	---	---	---	---
Late:								
Cabbage 3/	5,690	6,350	7,350	116	---	---	---	---
Total fall to date	84,730	88,320	83,250	94	---	---	---	---
Total fall	262,420	260,200	---	---	1,659,000	1,992,600	---	---
	Reported to date for 1951 with comparisons 4/							
Acreage	1,703,230	1,757,040	1,650,680	94	---	---	---	---
Acreage and production	1,540,850	1,591,860	1,491,290	94	5,555,100	6,511,300	6,081,100	93
GRAND ANNUAL TOTAL 4/	1,880,910	1,928,920	---	---	7,985,900	9,404,700	---	---

1/ Equivalent tons based on approximate net weight of unit in which reported.
2/ For seasonal groups and annual totals, averages are of the yearly totals, not the sum of the crop averages.
3/ Includes cabbage used for suaerkraut.
4/ Includes asparagus used for processing and cabbage for sauerkraut.
5/ Includes crops for which seasonal sub-group estimates (early, mid-, and late) are not made.
6/ Cantaloup production for early and mid-summer only; late summer included in acreage but not in production.
7/ Onion production for early summer only. Late summer included in acreage but not in production.

Table 3.- Truck crops, potatoes, and sweetpotatoes: Carlot (rail and boat) shipments from originating points in the United States, indicated periods in 1951, with comparisons 1/

Commodity	1950				1951 (preliminary)			
	Month			Week ended July 15	Month			Week ended July 14
	April	May	June		April	May	June	
	Cars	Cars	Cars	Cars	Cars	Cars	Cars	Cars
Asparagus	1,260	102	32	---	942	30	15	---
Beans, snap and lima	563	480	216	1	516	478	79	---
Beets	76	38	6	---	32	48	7	---
Broccoli	149	80	12	---	169	39	11	1
Cabbage	2,664	2,322	637	12	2,886	2,359	438	20
Cantaloups	1	2,452	8,615	1,610	---	681	8,003	2,713
Carrots	2,828	3,027	2,305	514	3,015	2,921	2,230	352
Cauliflower	483	324	123	14	606	211	72	22
Celery	2,434	3,242	1,970	352	2,845	3,397	2,061	266
Corn, green	723	1,563	1,504	53	657	1,207	1,069	75
Cucumbers	33	361	541	10	511	788	415	12
Eggplant	---	18	23	---	10	39	18	---
Escarole	130	76	---	---	149	123	1	---
Greens, excluding spinach	126	31	1	---	145	54	2	---
Honey Ball melons	---	63	171	---	---	---	106	---
Honey Dew melons	---	16	606	228	---	---	481	354
Lettuce and romaine	7,431	8,946	5,134	1,121	6,250	8,002	3,304	1,594
Mixed melons	---	44	138	10	---	1	115	30
Mixed vegetables	2,418	1,740	1,579	427	2,576	2,046	1,242	352
Onions	3,009	3,833	3,136	456	1,671	3,551	2,756	259
Peas, green	308	418	117	35	301	216	192	35
Peppers, green	293	514	327	18	464	417	558	48
Persian melons	---	---	23	16	---	---	5	47
Spinach	169	45	3	17	149	26	---	3
Tomatoes	2,262	4,472	2,424	266	1,294	3,508	5,246	338
Turnips and rutabagas	11	5	14	1	14	11	20	3
Watermelons	31	1,403	13,136	2,541	7	2,510	11,436	2,958
Total of above	27,402	35,615	42,793	7,702	25,209	32,663	39,882	9,482
Potatoes:								
Early	5,337	15,459	21,655	1,891	2,877	13,619	20,068	1,686
Intermediate	---	---	1,160	601	---	---	1,020	933
Late, surplus	19,904	8,768	1,357	148	17,864	7,328	1,313	507
Late, other	40	9	3	321	104	20	29	372
Total potatoes	25,281	24,236	24,176	2,961	20,845	20,967	22,430	3,498
Sweetpotatoes	269	224	136	---	168	77	12	---
Grand total	52,952	60,075	67,105	10,663	46,222	53,707	62,324	12,980

1/ Does not include shipments by motortruck. Includes Government purchases. Compiled from reports of the Production and Marketing Administration.

Table 4.- Truck crops: Unweighted average wholesale price New York and Chicago for stock of generally good quality and condition (U. S. No. 1 when quoted), indicated periods 1950 and 1951

Market and commodity	Unit	July, 1950 1/ Week ended 8	15	22	July, 1951 2/ Tuesday 10	17	24
		Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
New York							
Beans, snap, N. Y. Valentine	Bushel	---	3.30	2.80	1.80	1.40	1.68
Broccoli, Penna.	4/5 bushel box (12 bunches)	1.53	1.92	2.12	2.25	1.75	1.75
Cabbage, domestic, Nearby	1-3/4 bushel crate	.76	.56	.56	.58	1.04	1.00
Cantaloups, Calif.	Jmbo. Crt. 36's	3/5.88	3/6.00	3/6.84	5.32	6.00	6.16
Carrots, bunched, California	W.G.A. crate	5.94	6.00	5.25	6.98	7.12	7.26
Corn, green, Va.	Wirebound crt. (4-1/2-5 doz. ears)	1.94	4.00	3.69	1.45	4/1.57	1.62
Cucumbers, N.J.	Bushel	---	2.42	1.38	---	1.32	2.00
Eggplant, Florida	Bushel	2.59	3.75	---	2.42	3.00	3.00
Eggplant, N.J.	Bushel	---	---	4.09	---	3.55	3.25
Kale, Nearby	1-3/5 bu. box	1.06	.98	.91	---	.80	.85
Lettuce, Iceberg Type, California	W.G.A. crate (4-doz. heads)	5.83	5.35	4.65	9.00	8.15	5.75
Onions, Yellow, Bermuda, Texas	50-lb. sack	2.88	---	---	2.53	2.35	---
Onions, Yellow, N.J.	50-lb. sack	2.00	2.08	1.65	---	1.57	2.00
Peas, green, Idaho	Bushel	4.03	3.62	3.18	3.47	3.38	3.80
Peppers, green, N.J.	Bushel	---	2.03	1.62	1.46	2.25	1.58
Spinach, Savoy type, Nearby	1-3/5 bu. box	1.31	2.10	1.84	1.08	1.85	1.40
Tomatoes, Virginia	Lug 6X6 & lgr.	3.25	2.62	5/1.83	---	2.49	5/1.75
Tomatoes, Texas	Lug 6X6 & lgr.	4.67	5.12	---	2.98	---	---
Chicago							
Beans, snap, green, Illinois, Valentine	Bushel	4.62	4.38	4.38	3.40	2.00	2.25
Cabbage, domestic, Illinois	Misc. crate (40-50 pounds)	1.94	1.51	1.55	1.00	.85	.88
Cantaloups, Arizona	Jumbo crate 36's and 45's	5.38	5.72	6/5.15	5.35	5.10	6/6.00
Carrots, bunched, California	W.G.A. crate 6-doz. bunches	5.16	4.85	3.72	6.12	6.25	6.35
Cauliflower, Wash.	Pony crate (12's & lgr.)	3.04	2.83	2.70	3.20	3.25	2.35
Celery, Pascal type, California	16-inch crate (2-3 dozen)	5.19	5.18	4.65	4.35	4.37	4.25
Cucumbers, Illinois	Bushel	4.44	3.42	2.02	2.60	1.25	2.50
Eggplant, Louisiana	Bushel	2.67	2.72	2.41	2.25	2.10	---
Honey Dew Melons, Arizona	Jmbo. & Std. crate	3.97	3.60	3.62	---	4.25	3.65
Lettuce, Iceberg type, Calif.	W.G.A. crate (4-doz. heads)	4.59	3.78	3.40	7.50	5.85	4.60

- Continued

Table 4.- Truck crops: Unweighted average wholesale price New York and Chicago for stock of generally good quality and condition (U. S. No. 1 when quoted), indicated periods 1950 and 1951

- Continued

Market and commodity	Unit	July, 1950 1/ Week ended 8	15	22	July, 1951 2/ Tuesday 10	17	24
		Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Chicago (Continued)							
Onions, Yellow, Semi-Globe, California 7/	50-lb. sack	---	---	1.94	2.50	2.90	2.92
Onions, Yellow Globe: Illinois 8/	50-lb. sack	---	---	---	---	2.00	1.65
Peas, green, Idaho	Bushel	3.72	3.10	3.00	3.25	3.00	2.85
Peppers, green, Miss. and Tenn., ..	Bushel	4.84	2.59	1.95	1.75	1.75	2.50
Peppers, green, N.C.	Bushel	4.59	2.70	1.88	---	2.07	2.62
Spinach, flat type, Illinois	Bushel	1.67	.95	1.12	1.62	1.25	1.75
Spinach, flat type, Colorado	1-1/4 bu. crt.	---	---	---	---	2.50	1.85
Tomatoes, Tenn.	Lug 6X6 & lgr.	---	3.88	---	---	3.75	3.00
Tomatoes, California	Lug 6X6 & lgr.	---	5.50	4.88	---	4.75	3.75

1/ Simple average of midpoint of range of daily prices, compiled by Production and Marketing Administration from the daily reports of Market News Service.

2/ Representative price for Tuesday of each week, obtained from special reports by Market News representatives.

3/ Jumbo 36's and 45's.

4/ Precooled.

5/ Maryland.

6/ California.

7/ Jumbo size.

8/ Medium size.

Compiled from records of the Production and Marketing Administration.

Table 5.- Truck crops for processing: Planted acreage and estimated production, average 1940-49, annual 1950, and indicated 1951

Commodity	Planted acreage				Production		
	Average 1940-49	1950	Preliminary 1951	1951 as percentage of 1950	Average 1940-49	1950	Indicated 1951
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Percent	Tons	Tons	Tons
Asparagus	76,240	88,250	---	---	95,720	108,410	---
Beans, green, lima 1/	75,390	100,180	114,640	114	45,470	80,500	---
Beans, snap	124,040	119,520	129,990	109	201,200	254,500	272,200
Beets	17,080	19,800	19,490	98	129,100	174,500	---
Cabbage for kraut	19,230	18,920	---	---	173,200	246,800	---
Contracted	9,810	10,490	10,140	97	81,500	122,800	---
Open market	9,420	8,430	---	---	91,700	124,000	---
Corn, sweet	498,210	359,530	468,810	130	1,149,700	974,200	---
Cucumbers for pickles	124,970	123,870	159,380	129	209,040	176,020	---
Peas, green 1/	446,140	436,430	479,040	110	402,470	433,830	523,930
Pimientos, Ga.	13,130	32,000	18,000	56	13,400	45,000	---
Spinach 2/	24,830	24,940	28,150	113	62,000	60,960	87,930
Tomatoes	519,200	372,820	477,970	128	2,883,400	2,747,400	---
Total 3/	1,938,460	1,696,260	---	---	5,364,700	5,302,120	---

1/ Production reported on shelled basis.
2/ Winter and spring only.
3/ Excluding acreage and production of fall-crop spinach in 5 States not reported until December.

NOTE: All data subject to addition and revision in later monthly reports.

Table 6.- Truck crops: Index numbers (unadjusted) of prices received by farmers, United States as of 15th of the month, indicated periods (Jan. 1910-Dec. 1914 = 100)

5-year average	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Average
1935-39	104	111	122	115	97	86	79	75	75	82	94	103	95
1940-44	178	191	208	199	173	159	137	128	124	134	158	179	164
1945-49	243	246	247	238	207	187	184	171	163	174	212	202	206
Year													
1948	287	295	281	282	244	196	192	147	142	147	169	181	214
1949	256	267	235	196	194	155	168	170	188	174	213	196	201
1950	261	203	168	205	178	182	200	164	126	138	188	211	185
1951	324	333	265	225	239	189	204						

Table 7.- Vegetables, canned: Canner and wholesale distributor shipments, pack year 1949 and 1950

Item	Beans, snap		Corn, sweet		Peas, green		Tomatoes		Tomato juice 1/		Total 5 major vegetables	
	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950
	1,000 actual cases	1,000 actual cases	1,000 actual cases	1,000 actual cases	1,000 actual cases	1,000 actual cases	1,000 actual cases	1,000 actual cases	1,000 actual cases	1,000 actual cases	1,000 actual cases	1,000 actual cases
Beginning stocks (pack year) 2/												
Canner	329	1,620	4,113	6,467	4,985	2,141	2,719	1,868	5,741	3,004	17,887	15,100
Wholesale distributor	3/2,300	3,561	3/6,000	3/5,700	5,438	4,430	3,600	4,027	2,600	2,975	19,938	20,693
Total	2,629	5,181	10,113	12,167	10,423	6,571	6,319	5,895	8,341	5,979	37,825	35,793
Pack	19,303	20,213	33,138	21,645	24,945	32,726	18,874	18,724	20,560	22,741	116,820	116,049
Total supply	21,932	25,394	43,251	33,812	35,368	39,297	25,193	24,619	28,901	28,720	154,645	151,842
Ending stocks (pack year) 2/												
Canner	1,620	1,396	4/8,294	4/726	2,141	1,111	1,868	55	3,004	917	16,927	4,205
Wholesale distributors	3,561	4,197	4/6,856	4/6,086	4,430	6,332	4,027	2,233	2,975	2,908	21,849	21,756
Total	5,181	5,593	4/15,150	4/6,812	6,571	7,443	5,895	2,288	5,979	3,825	38,776	25,961
Movement during pack year 5/	16,751	19,801	6/28,101	6/27,000	28,797	31,854	19,298	22,331	22,922	24,895	115,869	125,881

1/ Includes combination vegetable juices, containing at least 70 percent tomato juice.
2/ Carry-over stock date as follows: green peas, June 1; snap beans, tomatoes, and tomato juice, July 1; sweet corn, August 1.
3/ Estimated.
4/ July 1.
5/ Movement into retail channels, export, etc. during pack years, 1949-50 and 1950-51 unless otherwise noted.
6/ August 1 to July 1; pack year incomplete.

Canners' stock and pack data from National Canners Association; wholesale distributors stock data from USDC.

Table 8.- Frozen vegetables: Cold-storage holdings, June 30, 1951, with comparisons 1/

Commodity	1950 April 30	1950 May 31	1950 June 30	1951 April 30	1951 May 31	1951 June 30 (prel.)	June 30 average 1946-50
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Asparagus	3,007	6,845	12,858	4,727	12,134	16,244	15,612
Beans, lima	39,372	33,987	29,544	40,267	35,298	31,011	16,623
Beans, snap	19,268	17,122	14,567	24,766	22,261	18,306	9,301
Broccoli	18,375	16,987	15,104	25,673	26,143	23,650	12,620
Brussels sprouts	9,025	8,488	7,577	12,650	11,831	10,548	4,256
Cauliflower	10,176	8,805	8,441	8,597	7,684	7,013	6,110
Corn, sweet	20,100	17,832	15,394	19,996	16,915	14,289	12,876
Peas, green	42,472	35,793	57,046	47,174	44,841	69,098	69,714
Pumpkin and squash	5,606	5,096	4,305	4,204	4,460	4,598	4,708
Spinach	26,546	26,579	32,549	26,472	33,415	44,051	24,835
All other vegetables	48,045	43,585	38,570	57,585	55,224	51,436	36,222
Total	241,992	221,119	235,955	272,111	270,206	290,244	212,877

1/ Pack data for 1949 and 1950 published in April 1951 issue of The Vegetable Situation.
Compiled from reports of Production and Marketing Administration.

Table 9.- Potatoes: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1940-49, annual 1950, and indicated 1951

Group and States	Acreage: Harvested Average 1940-49	Acreage: Harvested 1950	Acreage: For harvest 1951	Yield per acre: Average 1940-49	Yield per acre: 1950	Yield per acre: Indicated 1951	Production: Average 1940-49	Production: 1950	Production: Indicated 1951
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Bu.	Bu.	Bu.	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
Early									
12 States	472	359	294	129	179	171	59,664	64,309	50,433
Intermediate									
8 States	244	174	148	135	185	178	32,454	32,205	26,429
Late, Surplus									
3 Eastern	498	338	285	227	339	346	110,975	114,590	98,550
5 Central	638	404	310	116	185	193	70,633	74,595	59,865
10 Western	466	436	359	227	292	279	105,358	127,310	99,923
18 States	1,602	1,178	954	183	269	271	286,967	316,495	258,338
Late, Other									
5 New England	59	39	30	177	247	236	10,449	9,644	7,068
5 Central	183	94	81	111	177	168	20,388	16,607	13,570
1 Southwestern	4	3	2	81	80	82	283	240	205
11 States	246	136	113	132	194	184	31,119	26,491	20,843
Late, Total									
29 States	1,848	1,314	1,067	177	261	262	318,086	342,986	279,181
37 late and intermediate	2,092	1,488	1,215	172	252	252	350,540	375,191	305,610
Total, United States	2,564	1,847	1,509	164	238	236	410,203	439,500	356,043

Table 10.- Potatoes: Unweighted average price per 100 pounds (except where otherwise noted) for stock of generally good quality and condition (U. S. No. 1, size A, when quoted) at shipping points and terminal markets, indicated periods, 1950 and 1951

Location and variety	1950 Month June	1950 Week ended July 15	1951 Month April	1951 Month May	1951 Month June 1/	1951 Week ended July 17 1/
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
F.O.B. Shipping Points						
Lower Rio Grande Valley, Texas, Bliss Triumph 2/	---	---	2.74	---	---	---
Hastings section, Florida, Sebago 2/	---	---	4.08	2.95	---	---
Kern County, California, Long White 2/	1.61	---	---	2.53	2.43	---
Foley, Alabama, Bliss Triumph 2/	---	---	---	2.48	2.80	---
Foley, Alabama, Sebago 2/	---	---	---	2.94	2.69	---
Charleston, S. C., Sebago 2/	2.92	---	---	3.08	2.83	---
Onley, Virginia, Cobbler 3/	4/1.95	4/2.36	---	---	2.29	2.06
Washington, North Carolina, Cobbler 2/	1.96	---	---	---	2.59	---
Phoenix, Arizona, Bliss Triumph 2/	2.30	---	---	---	2.90	---
Aroostook County, Maine (old crop) (50 pound sack)	---	---	3/.86	3/.89	---	---
Rochester, New York (old crop)	---	---	3/1.89	3/1.90	---	---
Stevens Point, Wisconsin (old crop)	---	---	3/1.61	---	---	---
Yakima, Washington 2/	---	2.38	---	---	---	2.81
Terminal markets						
New York						
Bliss Triumph, Florida (50 pound sack) 2/	---	---	3.49	---	---	---
Sebago, Florida 2/ (50 pound sack)	---	---	3.14	---	---	---
Sebago, Southern 2/	3.66	---	---	4.11	4.04	---
Long White, California 2/	4.00	4.18	---	4.91	4.76	5.06
Cobbler, Virginia 3/	2.45	2.92	---	---	---	2.20
Green Mountain and Katahdin, Maine (old crop)	3.19	---	2.54	2.81	---	---
Russet Burbank, Idaho (old crop)	---	---	4.12	4.41	4.90	---
Chicago						
Bliss Triumph, Florida (50 pound sack) 2/	---	---	3.28	---	---	---
Bliss Triumph, Alabama 2/	---	---	---	3.69	3.88	---
Bliss Triumph, Arizona 2/	3.95	4.35	---	---	---	5/4.69
Bliss Triumph, California 2/	3.92	---	---	4.65	---	---
Long White, California 2/	3.27	3.64	---	4.18	4.00	4.30
Russet Burbank, Idaho (old crop) 2/	---	---	3.50	3.25	4.08	---
Pontiac, Minnesota and North Dakota 2/	---	---	2.90	2.33	---	---

1/ Representative price for Tuesday of each week, obtained from special reports by Market News representatives. Monthly average is simple average of these quotations.
2/ Washed stock.
3/ Unwashed stock.
4/ Delivered sales shipping point basis.
5/ Idaho.

Compiled from records of the Production and Marketing Administration.

Table 11.- Sweetpotatoes: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1940-49, annual 1950, and indicated 1951

Group and State	Acreage: Harvested: Average 1940-49	Acreage: Harvested: 1950	Acreage: For harvest 1951	Yield per acre: Average 1940-49	Yield per acre: 1950	Yield per acre: Indicated 1951	Production: Average 1940-49	Production: 1950	Production: Indicated 1951
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
Central Atlantic 1/	54	50	48	129	149	149	6,991	7,461	7,135
Lower Atlantic 2/	225	192	140	89	101	93	20,137	19,356	13,068
South Atlantic 3/	360	296	190	87	98	91	31,326	29,052	17,345
North Central 4/	16	12	10	96	108	111	1,533	1,300	1,106
California	11	13	10	106	120	120	1,161	1,560	1,200
TOTAL U. S.	666	563	398	92	104	100	61,148	58,729	39,854

1/ New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia.
2/ North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.
3/ Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas.
4/ Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, and Kansas.

Table 12.- Sweetpotatoes: Unweighted average wholesale price per bushel for stock of generally good quality and condition (U. S. No. 1 when quoted) at New York and Chicago, indicated periods, 1950 and 1951

Market and type	1950: Month: June	1950: Week ended July 15	1951: Month: April	1951: Month: May	1951: Month: June 1/	1951: Week ended July 17 1/
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
New York						
Golden type:						
New Jersey	---	---	1.73	2.05	---	---
Jersey type:						
New Jersey	1.81	---	---	1.61	---	---
Orange type:						
New Jersey	2.32	---	1.71	2.02	---	---
Porto Rican:						
Louisiana	2.38	2.22	3.52	3.95	5.10	---
North and South Carolina	2.59	3.09	2.50	2.80	---	5.46
Chicago						
Nancy Hall:						
Illinois	---	---	2.34	---	---	---
Porto Rican:						
Louisiana	1.75	1.60	3.45	3.95	5.21	---
Tennessee	1.69	1.51	3.04	3.22	---	---

1/ Representative price for Tuesday of each week, obtained from special reports by Market News representatives. Monthly average is simple average of these quotations.

Compiled from the reports of the Production and Marketing Administration

Table 13.- Beans, dry, edible: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1940-49, annual 1950, and indicated 1951

Group of States	Acreage: Harvested: Average 1940-49	Acreage: Harvested: 1950	Acreage: For harvest 1951	Yield per acre: Average 1940-49	Yield per acre: 1950	Yield per acre: Indicated 1951	Production 1/: Average 1940-49	Production 1/: 1950	Production 1/: Indicated 1951
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags
Maine, New York Michigan 2/	686	556	523	867	968	996	5,934	5,384	5,207
Nebr., Mont., Idaho, Wyo., Washington 3/	310	289	294	1,482	1,667	1,483	4,591	4,818	4,361
Colo., N. Mex., Ariz., & Utah 4/	530	337	325	537	626	647	2,814	2,109	2,102
California:									
Standard lima	89	71	69	1,355	1,875	1,600	1,198	1,331	1,104
Baby lima	71	72	60	1,502	1,708	1,500	1,059	1,230	900
Other 5/	197	168	210	1,213	1,173	1,200	2,404	1,971	2,520
TOTAL U. S.	1,882	1,493	1,481	958	1,128	1,093	18,000	16,843	16,194

1/ Bags of 100 pounds, uncleaned beans; includes beans for seed.
2/ Largely Pea beans, but most important source also of Red Kidney, Yelloweye, and Cranberry.
3/ Largely Great Northern, but Idaho also is the most important source of Small Reds.
4/ Largely Pinto beans.
5/ Mostly Blackeye, Small White, and Pink.

Table 14.- Peas, dry, field: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1940-49, annual 1950, and indicated 1951 1/

State	Acreage: Harvested: Average 1940-49	Acreage: Harvested: 1950	Acreage: For harvest 1951	Yield per acre: Average 1940-49	Yield per acre: 1950	Yield per acre: Indicated 1951	Production 2/: Average 1940-49	Production 2/: 1950	Production 2/: Indicated 1951
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags
Minnesota	3/ 5	3	3	3/874	1,100	1,100	3/ 41	33	33
North Dakota	3/ 11	2	5	3/1,149	800	1,200	3/127	16	60
Montana	30	6	6	1,166	1,400	1,350	348	84	81
Idaho	136	60	74	1,228	1,450	1,250	1,716	870	925
Wyoming	3/ 2	2	2	3/1,114	1,250	1,200	3/ 24	25	24
Colorado	22	10	10	884	950	600	199	95	60
Washington	227	113	164	1,298	1,420	1,320	3,027	1,605	2,165
Oregon	26	14	14	1,308	1,150	1,150	343	161	161
California	3/ 20	9	3	3/1,023	1,000	1,520	3/ 200	90	46
United States	471	219	281	1,230	1,360	1,265	5,935	2,979	3,555

1/ In principal commercial producing States. Includes peas grown for seed and cannery peas harvested dry.
2/ Bags of 100 pounds (uncleaned).
3/ Short-time average.

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